Bishop Kenneth Cragg, 1913–2012

Albert Kenneth Cragg, one of the foremost scholars of Islamic and Christian theology, died November 13, 2012, at the College of St. Barnabas near Lingfield, Surrey, England, at the age of 99. Educated at Oxford, he was ordained in the Anglican Church in 1937. During World War II he taught at the American University in Beirut. After the war he received a doctorate at Oxford, then became professor of Arabic and Islamic studies (1951–56) at Hartford Seminary, Hartford, Connecticut, where he also coedited the journal *Muslim World*. Then followed five years as canon of St. George’s, Jerusalem, and study secretary for the Near East Council of Churches (1956–61), and seven years as sub-warden and then warden of St. Augustine’s College, Canterbury (1961–67). From 1967 to 1970 he was on the faculty of Ibadan University, Nigeria. In 1970 he became assistant bishop of Jerusalem, residing in Cairo as bishop of Egypt until 1974, when he returned to the United Kingdom to a lectureship at Sussex University, following which he was an assistant bishop within the Wakefield Diocese. In 1982 he retired to Oxford.

Olav Fykse Tveit, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, said of Bishop Cragg, “He was one of the towering intellects of his generation who helped to shape our churches’ understanding of the Middle East and Christian-Muslim interaction.”